## IN THE CLAIMS/

Please make the following claim substitutions:

signal received from the communications channel;

1	1. (Currently amended) A method for use in a communications endpoint, the
2	method comprising the steps of:
3	determining a signature of a communications channel, wherein the signature of
4	the communications channel is a second order statistic of a signal-to-noise ratio of a

performing power control over the communications channel wherein the power control compares a metric value and a target metric value, such that the target metric value is adjusted as a function of the determined signature of the communications channel.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER).
- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining step includes the steps of:

collecting signal-to-noise <u>ratio</u> (SNR) values of <u>a the</u> signal received from the communications channel; and

calculating the second order statistic of using the collected SNR values to determine the signature of the communications channel.

- 5. (Canceled)
- 6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
  - 7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the metric is a symbol error count.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the determining step includes the step of monitoring a <u>the</u> symbol error count of a <u>the</u> received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing

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power control as a function of a comparison between a bit error rate value of the

and the performing step includes the step of performing reverse-link outer loop

- 9 received signal and the adjusted bit error rate target value.
- 1 13. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
  - 14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the power control is a symbol error count based power control.
  - 15. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the step of monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.
  - 16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the developing step includes the steps of:

monitoring a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count;

setting a target symbol error rate as a function of the standard deviation; and the performing step includes the step of adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio for the received signal depending on the difference between the set target symbol error rate and the actual symbol error count produced by the receiver.

17. (Currently amended) A method for use in a communications endpoint, the method comprising the steps of:

measuring a signature of a fading environment, wherein the measuring includes calculating a standard deviation value of a signal-to-noise ratio of a received signal; and performing power control by adjusting a target metric value as a function of the measured signature.

- 18. (Canceled)
- 19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the measuring step includes the step of calculating a standard deviation value of the SNR, and wherein the

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- performing step uses the standard deviation value of the <u>signal-to-noise ratio</u> <del>SNR</del> to adjust the target metric value.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the metric value is a bit error rate (BER).
- 21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step adds a value to a signal-to-noise (SNR) ratio target value, wherein the added value is selected as a function of the measured signature of the fading environment.
  - 22. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the performing step includes the steps of:
    - estimating a bit error rate (BER);
    - comparing the estimated BER to a target BER value; and
  - adjusting a target signal-to-noise ratio value as a result of the comparison by adding a value to the target signal-to-noise ratio;
  - wherein the value added to the target signal-to-noise-ratio is selected as a function of the measured signature.
  - 23. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
  - 24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for use in a communication endpoint, the apparatus comprising:
  - a receiver for receiving a signal;
  - a controller for (a) developing a signature of the <u>a</u> communications channel from the received signal, wherein the controller further determines the signature of the <u>communications channel by collecting signal-to-noise ratio values of the received signal and by calculating a second order statistic of the collected signal-to-noise ratio values; and (b) performing power control over the communications channel by adjusting a target metric value as a function of the signature of the communications channel.</u>
  - 25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 further comprising a decoder for decoding the received signal and wherein the metric is a bit error rate (BER) of the

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- 3 decoded received signal.
- 1 26. (Canceled)
  - 27. (Canceled)
  - 28. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 27 24 further comprising a memory for storing a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to adjustment values for use in adjusting the target metric value.
  - 29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric value is signal-to-noise (SNR).
    - 30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the target metric value is a target signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and the controller adjusts the SNR target value by adding a value to the SNR target value, wherein the added value is selected as a function of the developed signature.
    - 31. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
    - 32. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the metric is a symbol error count.
    - 33. (Original) The apparatus of claim 24 wherein the controller monitors a symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.
  - 34. (Original) An apparatus for use in a communications endpoint, the apparatus comprising:
  - a decoder for decoding a frame of a received signal and for providing a signal representative of log-likelihood ratios with respect to information bits of the decoded frame;
    - a bit error estimate generator responsive to the signal representative of the log-

7 likelihood ratios for providing a bit error rate estimate; and

a processor for performing reverse outer loop power control (ROLPC) over a communications channel wherein the ROLPC performs a comparison between the bit error rate estimate and a target bit error rate value such that the target bit error rate value is adjusted as a function of a signature of the communications channel.

- 35. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the processor further determines the signature of the communications channel by calculating a second order statistic of a received signal-to-noise ratio (SNR).
- 36. (Original) The apparatus of claim 35 further comprising a memory for storing a look-up table which maps values of the second order statistic to adjustment values for use in adjusting the target bit error rate value.
- 37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the communications endpoint is a wireless endpoint.
- 38. (Currently amended) Apparatus for use in equipment for providing power control in a cellular system, the apparatus comprising:
  - a receiver for receiving a signal from a wireless endpoint;
- a controller for (a) developing a second order statistic from the received signal, wherein the controller calculates the second order statistic of collected signal-to-noise ratio values of the received signal, and wherein said second order statistic is used to determine an adjustment to a target metric value; and (b) performing power control with the wireless endpoint as a function of the second order statistic.
  - 39. (Canceled)
- 40. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 39 38 wherein the metric value is a bit error rate (BER).
- 41. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the power control is a symbol error count based power control.
  - 42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 38 wherein the controller monitors a

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symbol error count of the received signal for determining a standard deviation of the received symbol error count; and adjusts a target symbol error count for the received signal as a function of the standard deviation for use in providing the power control.

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43. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 38 further comprising a transmitter for transmitting power control information to the <u>a</u> mobile station.